



Moore Square Project

Raleigh, North Carolina

Project Update August 2010

City of Raleigh Department of Parks and Recreation
Raleigh Urban Design Center

Moore Square Project

Raleigh, North Carolina

Project Update August 2010

CONTENTS:

Master Plan Design Team

Project Overview

Project Timeline and Public Participation

Master Plan Schedule

Role of the Competition Proposal

Public Participation Event Structure

Core Concepts of the Competition Proposal

Moore Square Master Plan Design Team

Designer and Team Leader

Christopher Counts Studio
Charlottesville, VA

Arborist

Bartlett Tree Experts
Raleigh, NC

Children's Play Environment Consultant

The National Learning Initiative, NCSU
Raleigh, NC

Civil Engineer

John R. McAdams Company, Inc.
Raleigh, NC

Consulting Architect

Frank Harmon Architects PA
Raleigh, NC

Consulting Landscape Architect

Cynthia Rice Landscape Architecture and Planning
Raleigh, NC

Cost Estimator

Capitol Building Consultants
Winston-Salem, NC

Cultural Landscape Historian

Elizabeth K. Meyer, University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Stormwater Ecologist

Integrated Water Strategies
Durham, NC



Moore Square Project Overview

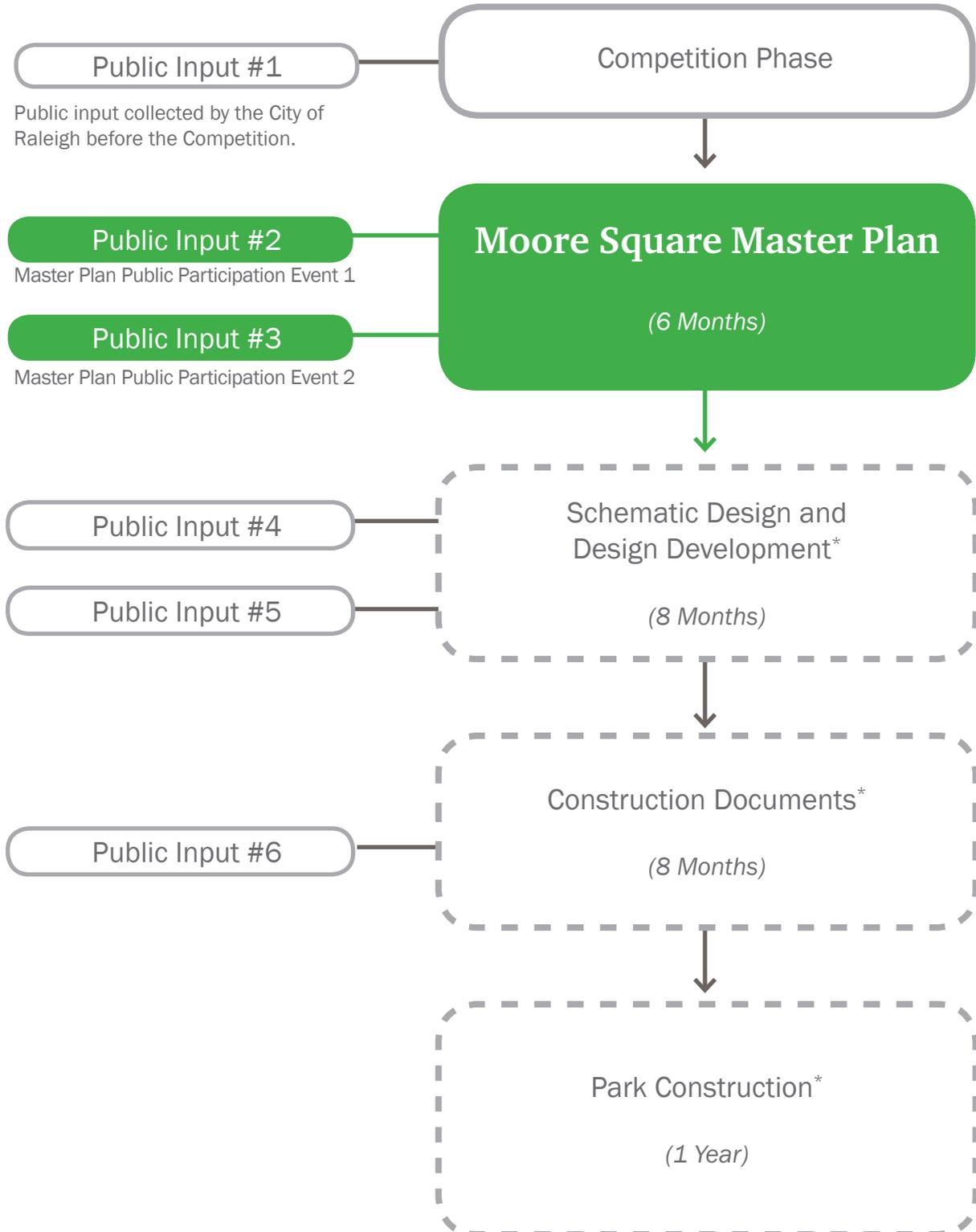
The realization of the improvements to Moore Square will involve a thorough design process. The Master Plan is one of the first steps.

The Moore Square Master Plan is a small part of a larger project to enhance the physical character of Moore Square in Raleigh, North Carolina. The 2010 project began with the Moore Square National Design Competition. A jury of experts, with the assistance of public input solicited by the City of Raleigh, selected a winning proposal that embodied the values of Raleigh and expressed a new vision appropriate for the 21st century City. The proposal submitted by Christopher Counts Studio was chosen in large part because of its sensitivity to the existing site and historical situation, and its thoughtful response and consideration to the pre-competition public input.

The Master Plan phase will be the first step in a larger process to establish Moore Square as a symbol of pride and community for the citizens of Raleigh. This six-month process will involve the first of many opportunities for the public to participate throughout a multi-phase design process.

Project Timeline and Public Participation

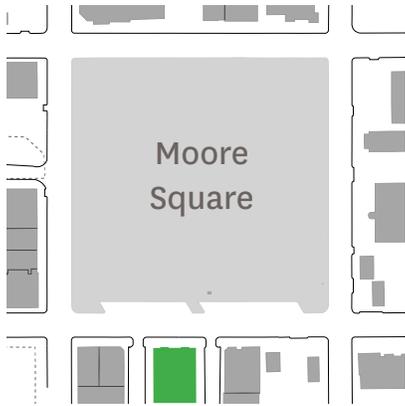
There will be a total of six opportunities for the public to participate in the design process. Two of these participation opportunities are part of the Master Plan phase.



* Phases not currently funded.

Moore Square Master Plan Schedule

Updated July 2010



Cobblestone Hall

City Market
[South of Moore Square]
Downtown Raleigh, NC

Master Plan public participation events will be held at Cobblestone Hall adjacent to Moore Square. This location will provide ample room and facilities for the public participation events as well as convenient access to Moore Square to better evaluate design opportunities and site constraints first-hand. Each Public Participation Event may include two meeting times to accommodate the varied schedules of Raleigh citizens.

April 2010
Kickoff Meeting

May - July, 2010
City and State Technical Reviews

August 12, 2010
Public Leadership Group Meeting

September 9, 2010
Public Participation Event #1

Cobblestone Hall in historic City Market

1:00pm - 4:00pm afternoon session
7:00pm - 10:00pm evening session

October 2010
City and State Technical Reviews

October 2010
Public Leadership Group Meeting

November 2010
Public Participation Event #2

Cobblestone Hall in historic City Market

1:00pm - 4:00pm afternoon session
7:00pm - 10:00pm evening session

December 2010
Final Master Plan Submission

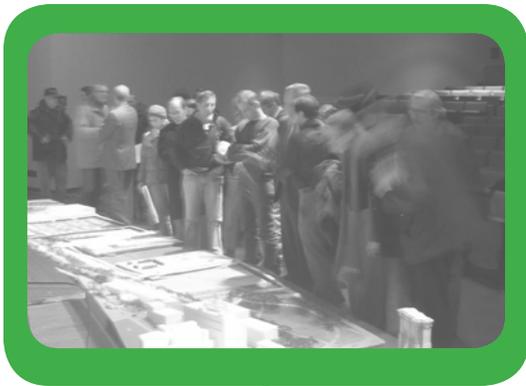


Role of the Moore Square Competition Scheme in the Master Plan Process

The winning proposal is not the design, but the starting point of a design process.

The Moore Square Design Competition was only the first step of the Moore Square Project and the design of the winning proposal should not be interpreted as the final design. Although many of the core principles embedded in the design approach were admired by the jury and City officials, the real design of the project is just beginning. The next step that began in early April is a six-month Master Plan process that involves review and input from the citizens of Raleigh and a wide range of design professionals and public officials.

Public Participation Event Structure



1. PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The introduction offers a project update and frames discussion of current design concepts for consideration.

The introduction frames the later discussion and helps ensure that all concerned citizens have the most up-to-date information about the project and that the most relevant feedback is gathered for each particular stage of the process. The presentation includes a detailed description of the current design proposal and its evolution based on design work and review. Drawings and other graphics will be used to communicate design intent and a range of possibilities.

2. SITE MODEL DISCUSSION

The site model plays a key role in engaging the public by promoting active participation in the design process.

This more informal presentation provides a physical and accessible representation of design concepts discussed in the presentation and allows for question-and-answer opportunities to foster a deeper understanding of both design suggestions and three-dimensional examples of site challenges and opportunities. The site model also allows for various options to be tested so attendees are active participants in the design process.

3. BREAK-OUT GROUP WORKSHOPS

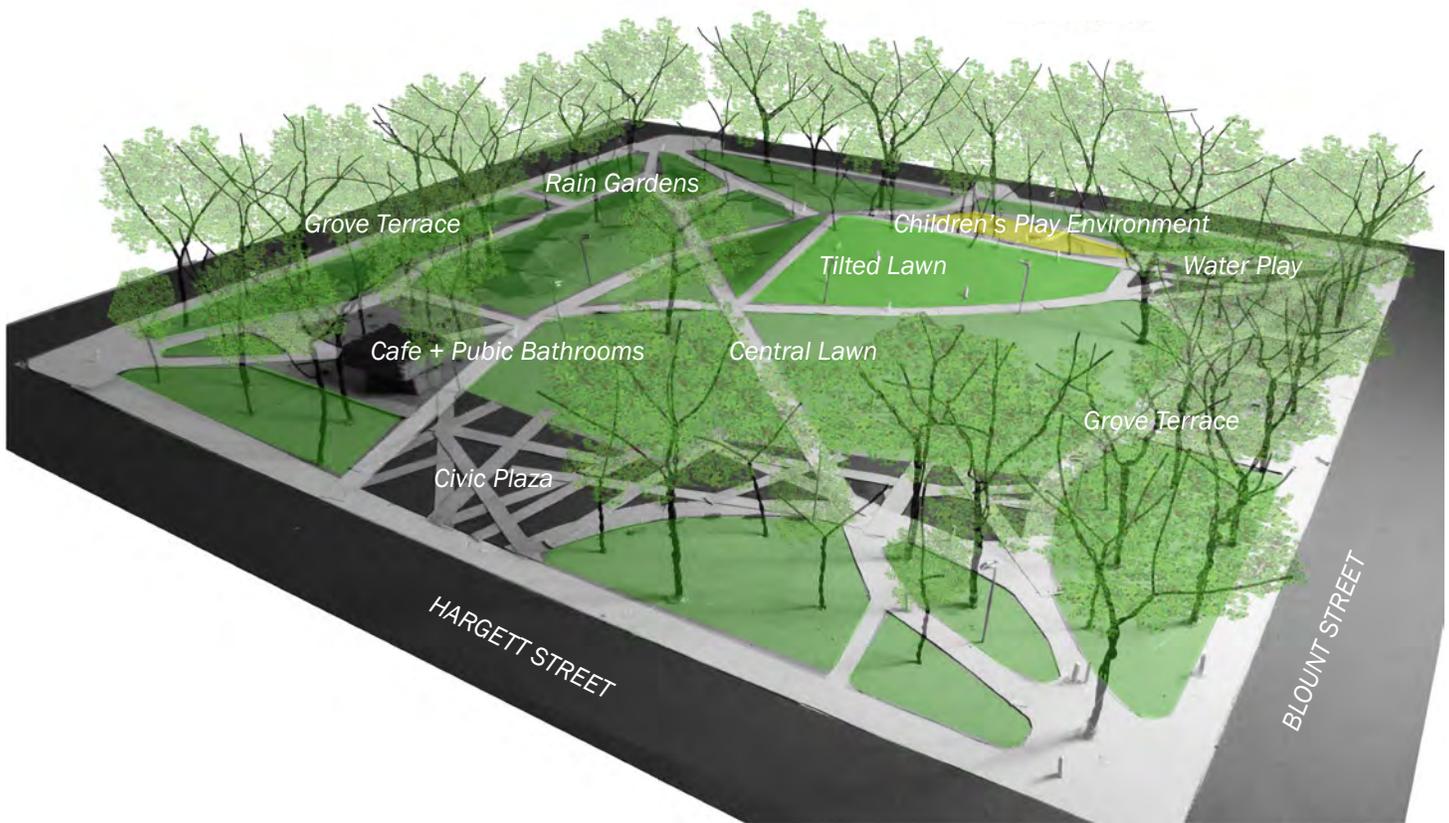
Design team members facilitate small-group design charrettes for all attendees.

Attendees break out into smaller groups for more focused discussion and thinking about the project. A design team member or City official leads each group and records all comments, ideas and concerns. Base drawings are distributed to all groups; attendees are encouraged to draw ideas in addition to offering verbal suggestions. This opportunity for hands-on input will help ensure that all citizens of Raleigh have the opportunity to become active participants in the design process.

4. REPORT BACK AND NEXT STEPS

Spokesperson reports thoughts and suggestions to the entire group of attendees.

After all break out groups have reported, the public participation meeting will close with a recap of the day's meeting and discussion of the next steps in the process, including the next opportunity for public participation. All of the ideas, suggestions and concerns gathered through each phase of this process will be documented and used by the designers and City officials to develop a design for Moore Square that is consistent with the aspirations of the citizens of Raleigh.



Competition Study Model, Christopher Counts Studio, 2009

Core Concepts of the Winning Proposal

This proposal builds upon the most unique and significant characteristics of Moore Square, but expands the spatial, experiential and programmatic range of the Square by introducing a gently tilted lawn. This design feature energizes and organizes the site into visually and functionally distinct spaces that accommodate a wider range of uses than the Square offers today. The Square becomes multidimensional, offering prospect, large expanses of open lawn, and places for refuge and recreation. Visiting Moore Square becomes an exploratory journey of unfolding views and diverse opportunities.

The original entry paths of the Square are retained in order to minimize disturbance of existing tree roots. Planters are removed to deepen views. Existing path materials are recycled in the pavement pattern of an exciting and flexible new plaza that can host both grand and impromptu performances. An adventure playground is embedded in the landform, and the gentle northern slope becomes an amphitheater, or simply a place to sunbathe and people watch. Sustainable practices such as collecting stormwater in rain gardens and enriching habitat in the interpreted natural area ensure that this design benefits the ecosystem and establishes a contemplative zone for activities including reading and birdwatching.

People will be drawn into the new Moore Square. They will be pulled inside by a sense of welcome, safety and excitement. The new Square becomes a civic theatre, its edges, lawn and subtle slopes animated and its historic oak perimeter protected and invigorated with a successional planting strategy. Intensified activity throughout the Square reveals an iconic destination emblematic of Raleigh's vitality.

Moore Square's significance as an ethnographic cultural landscape was generated by civic use. Imagining its continued use in the 21st century by expanding the possibilities for engaging social interaction honors this historic progression.

